**Amounts due Against VIPs for IAF Aircrafts**

802. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Indian Air Force fees due from VIPs for using IAF planes for non-official and unauthorised purposes;

(b) the details of VIPs, their journeys and amounts due;

(c) what action-Civil and /or Criminal – do Government propose to take to recover these amounts; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Use of IAF planes for non official purposes, on payment, by Prime Minister is permitted. A statement giving details of airlift dues from VIPs and the number of unofficial journeys undertaken is enclosed *(see* below).

(a) ©and (d) The matter is being pursued with the concerned political parties. Further action as per law will be taken, if required, for recovery of the dues.

**Statement**

*Amounts due Against VIPs for IAF Aircrafts*

| *Name of VIP* | *Amount (Rs)* | *No of Journeys Undertaken* |
|---|---|---|
| Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi | 1,86,17,820 | 190 |
| Shri PV Narashimha Rao | 5,52,40,647 | 328 |
| Shri Bhuvanesh Chaturvedi | 44,73,053 | 16 |
| Smt. Shiela Kaul, Shri K.C. Pant, Congress (I) and Youth Congress (I) workers, as authorised by PMO. | Total; 7,83,30,980 | |
| Shri Chandra Shekhar | 5,91,31,476 | 690 |
| Shri H.D. Deve Gowda | 26,48,164 | 120 |

| *Name of VIP* | *Amount (Rs)* | *No of Journeys Undertaken* |
|---|---|---|
| Shri CM. Ibrahim as authorised by the Prime Minister | 28,13,333 Total: 54,61,497 | 4 |

**Replacement of INS Vikrant and INS Virat**

803. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(b) whether Government have finally decided to dispose of INS Vikrant as scrap;

(c) if so, whether no proper use of the aircraft carrier INS Vikrant battle ship like training, instruction, exhibition or amusement was considered feasible or desirable; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps have been and are being taken to replace INS Vikrant and Virat, as they go out of service?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra have evinced interest in converting INS 'Vikrant', which was decommissioned in January 1997, into a maritime museum.

(e) ©Necessary steps to find replacements have been taken. The construction ot an Air Defence Ship has already been sanctioned.

**Recruitment in Air Force**

†804. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Defence had made announcement regarding recruitment in Air Force in the bordering district Chamoli in hilly area of U.P. in April-May 1999;

(b) if so, the reasons for not organising this recruitment drive so far; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.